

Application No. 10/009,147  
Applicants: Peter Himmelsbach et al.  
Amendment in Response to Office Action dated July 10, 2003

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The present listing of the claims replaces all past listings of the claims:

**Listing of claims:**

Claim 1. (Canceled)

Claim 2. (Currently Amended)                      The backing material combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition is constructed on a block copolymer basis, ~~especially A-B or A-B-A block copolymers or mixtures thereof, phase A being principally polystyrene or its derivatives and phase B being ethylene, propylene, butylene, butadiene, isoprene or mixtures thereof, with particular preference ethylene, propylene and butylene or mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 3. (Currently Amended)                      The backing material combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the overall styrene content in the polymer is less than 40% by weight, ~~with particular preference from 3 to 35% by weight.~~

Claim 4. (Currently Amended)                      The backing material combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition has a dynamic-complex glass transition temperature at a frequency of 0.1 rad/s of less than -30°C, ~~preferably of less than -50°C, with very particular preference from -55°C to 150°C.~~

Claim 5. (Currently Amended)                      The backing material combination as

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claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition is applied partially and/or foamed with an inert gas.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended)      The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition is applied to the backing material by a printing process selected from the group consisting of halftone printing, thermal screen printing or and gravure printing.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended)      The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition is applied to the backing material in the form of polygeometric domes ~~to the backing material~~.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended)      The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the cold seal composition is coated on the backing material with a coating weight of more than 3 g/m<sup>2</sup>, ~~preferably between 6 g/m<sup>2</sup> and 180 g/m<sup>2</sup>, with very particular preference between 9 g/m<sup>2</sup> and 140 g/m<sup>2</sup>.~~

Claim 9. (Currently Amended)      The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the ultimate tensile stress elongation of the backing material is less than 300%, ~~preferably from 5 to 100%, from 50 to 150% or from 150% to 250%, with particular preference less than 30%, and/or the ultimate tensile stress strength is from 1 000 to 22 000~~

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cN/cm.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the bond strength of the coated backing material is between 0.4 N/cm and 3.0 N/cm.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein ~~the pressure-sensitively adhesively-coated-backing material following application~~ the combination is enveloped or is provided with a wound contact material or padding.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The ~~backing material~~ combination as claimed in claim 4 15, wherein the combination ~~the pressure-sensitively adhesively-coated-backing material~~ is sterilized, ~~preferably by means of  $\gamma$  (gamma) radiation.~~

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The A method of using a backing material combination as claimed in claim 4- 15 in a medical treatment of a patient, said method comprising wrapping said combination around a portion of a body of a patient receiving said medical treatment for medical products, especially plasters, medical fixations, wound coverings, orthopedic or phlebological bandages, and dressings.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) The A method of using a backing material

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combination as claimed in claim 1- 15 in a reversible technical fixation process, said method comprising wrapping said combination around said substrate, and optionally removing said combination from around said substrate for reversible technical fixations which are removable without damaging the substrate.

Claim 15. (New)

A combination comprising:

- a) a backing material; and
- b) a latex-free, cold seal composition applied to one or both sides of the backing material;

wherein:

- i) the cold seal composition is a pressure sensitive adhesive having an ultimate tensile stress strength of at least 800 cN/cm;
- ii) the cold seal composition comprises one or more block copolymers having a styrene content of less than 65% by weight;
- iii) the cold seal composition has a  $\tan \delta$  of less than 0.4 at a temperature of 25°C and a frequency of 100 rad/s, wherein  $\tan \delta$  is a quotient between a loss modulus and a storage modulus; and
- iv) the combination has a bond strength to a reverse side thereof of not less than 10 cN/cm.

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Claim 16. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 2, wherein the block copolymer is selected from the group consisting of A-B block copolymers, A-B-A block copolymers and mixtures of A-B block copolymers and A-B-A block copolymers.

Claim 17. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 16, wherein phase A is polystyrene or a derivative thereof and phase B is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butylene, butadiene and isoprene.

Claim 18. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 17, wherein phase B is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene and butylene.

Claim 19. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 15, wherein the overall styrene content in the polymer is from 3 to 35% by weight.

Claim 20. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein the dynamic-complex glass transition temperature is less than -50°C.

Claim 21. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 4, wherein the dynamic-complex glass transition temperature is from -55°C to 150°C.

Claim 22. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cold seal

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composition is coated on the backing material with a coating weight of between 6 g/m<sup>2</sup> and 180 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 23. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 15, wherein the cold seal composition is coated on the backing material with a coating weight of between 9 g/m<sup>2</sup> and 140 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 24. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ultimate tensile stress elongation of the backing material is from 5 to 100%, and/or the ultimate tensile stress strength is from 1 000 to 22 000 cN/cm.

Claim 25. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ultimate tensile stress elongation of the backing material is from 150% to 250%, and/or the ultimate tensile stress strength is from 1 000 to 22 000 cN/cm.

Claim 26. (New) The combination as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ultimate tensile stress elongation of the backing material is less than 30%, and/or the ultimate tensile stress strength is from 1 000 to 22 000 cN/cm.

Claim 27. (New) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the combination is in the form of a medical product selected from the group consisting of plasters, medical fixations,

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wound coverings, orthopedic bandages, phlebological bandages, and dressings.

Claim 28 (New)

A combination comprising:

- a) a backing material; and
- b) a latex-free, cold seal composition applied to one or both sides of the backing material;

wherein:

- i) the cold seal composition is a pressure sensitive adhesive having an ultimate tensile stress strength of at least 800 cN/cm;
- ii) the cold seal composition comprises one or more block copolymers having a styrene content of less than 65% by weight;
- iii) the cold seal composition has a  $\tan \delta$  of less than 0.4 at a temperature of 25°C and a frequency of 100 rad/s, wherein  $\tan \delta$  is a quotient between a loss modulus and a storage modulus; and
- iv) individual plies or turns of the combination adhere to other plies or turns of the combination, but not substantially to a substrate selected from the group consisting of skin, hair and clothing.

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CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.